

Alpha Counseling
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Dear Friends!

A new year is here! This is my 36th January at Alpha Counseling and I look forward to a new year

I really enjoy Mark Twain and all his writings but, my favorite quote is 'The reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated'.

I would like to use his saying, applying it to me, with a slight change in meaning!
'The reports of my retirement have been exaggerated!'

The reports are my own fault. I will be 79 in a couple months! Many people have been retired for years at this age. God has given me the desire to work for Him and has made it clear that I have lots to do at Alpha. In 2025 I worked a limited schedule of two days a week but recently, because counseling has gotten really busy and I have moved to three days a week. I have counseled over 300 hours last year which takes me to 32,000 hours since 1990.

Interestingly in 2025 I have talked to people over 80 and as young as 12!

It is interesting to hear young adults open up, to an old guy like me, with such openness and sincerity. There are no subjects that people avoid once they are sure that you are interested in helping them without being judgmental. Some people take six months or longer to get comfortable with you and still others blurt out their deepest secrets on the first meeting. People are truly fascinating in their differences! It makes this job so much more interesting.

The message here is still the same. Christ is Lord! We emphasize teaching others to be excellent at forgiving their hurts and learning to abide in Christ. Jesus explains in John 15:5 I am the vine and you are the branches. If you abide in me and I abide in you, then you will produce lots of fruit. But you cannot do anything without me. Some people grab onto these truths with enthusiasm and others walk away because that is not what they are looking for as answers to their problems.

Your prayers and support make it possible for Alpha to minister to the body of Christ especially for those who cannot afford expensive fees for counseling.
Thank you and may God bless you!!

Richard